

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-9, and 11-22 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsushima et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,401,322). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 23 is cancelled. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), therefore, is moot.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsushima in view of Hosokawa et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,764,080). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 24 is cancelled. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), therefore, is moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-22 are allowed. Applicants acknowledge, with thanks, the allowance of these claims. Applicant has also cancelled claims 23 and 24. Accordingly, this application should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 29, 2005

By:  

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